

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims:

1-78. (Canceled).

79. (New) An article for displaying a supply-chain collaboration between supply-chain participants, the supply-chain participants being members of a business community and the supply-chain participants interacting according to a predefined consecutive order, the article comprising a tangible machine-readable medium embodying instructions that when performed by one or more machines result in operations comprising:

receiving data that identifies the supply-chain participants and interactions between the supply-chain participants;

receiving data that identifies the consecutive order of the interactions;

processing the data received to display in a first view, at least two columns representing business activities of the supply-chain participants, each column representing at least one of the supply-chain participants in the interactions, order of the columns from left to right represents a flow of goods, and the business activities being represented by individual polygons within the at least two columns;

processing the data received to display in the first view, the business activities in individual polygons, the polygons being positioned adjacent to each other in order to represent the interactions between the supply-chain participants in the supply-chain collaboration; processing the data received to display in a second view, the at least two columns in the same order as the first view, the polygons being non-adjacent and being connected by lines, and the interactions between the supply-chain participants being represented by the lines connecting the polygons; and

processing the data received to display in a third view, the at least two columns, the at least two columns including at least one additional column, each of the at least one additional columns representing specific computer components used to implement the interactions between the supply-chain participants and utilization of the computer components by the supply-chain participants.

80. (New) An article as in claim 79, wherein the article further embodies instructions that when performed by one or more machines result in operations comprising:

displaying on the left of the at least two columns in the first view, an additional two columns, one of the additional two columns listing qualitative business benefits provided by the supply-chain collaboration of the supply-chain participants, and the second of the additional two columns representing quantitative business benefit information, wherein the qualitative and quantitative business benefit information represents upstream benefits from the supply-chain collaboration between the supply-chain participants.

81. (New) An article as in claim 79, wherein the article further embodies instructions that when performed by one or more machines result in operations comprising:

displaying on the right of the at least two columns in the first view, an additional two columns, one of the two additional columns listing qualitative business benefits provided by the supply-chain collaboration of the supply-chain participants, and the second of the two additional columns representing quantitative business benefit information, wherein the qualitative and quantitative business benefit information represents downstream benefits from the supply-chain collaboration between the supply-chain participants.

82. (New) An article as in claim 79, wherein the article further embodies instructions that when performed by one or more machines result in operations comprising:

generating the second view upon receiving a request from a user to alter the first view.

83. (New) An article as in claim 79, wherein the polygons in the first view are hexagons.

84. (New). An article as in claim 79, wherein displaying, in the third view, comprises displaying availability of the components.

85. (New) An article as in claim 79, wherein the article further embodies instructions that when performed by one or more machines result in operations comprising:

detecting that a user shifts at least one of the polygons from a first area to a second area;

updating a variable that is related to the at least one of the polygons and that depends on which area the at least one of the polygons covers; and

updating and displaying a second variable that is a function of the first variable.

86. (New) A system comprising: a storage medium for storing computer-readable code; and a processor for executing the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code, when executed, causing the processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving data that identifies the supply-chain participants and interactions between the supply-chain participants;

receiving data that identifies the consecutive order of the interactions;

processing the data received to display in a first view, at least two columns representing business activities of the supply-chain participants, each column representing at least one of the supply-chain participants in the interactions, order of the columns from left to right represents a flow of goods, and the business activities being represented by individual polygons within the at least two columns;

processing the data received to display in the first view, the business activities in individual polygons, the polygons being positioned adjacent to each other in order to represent the interactions between the supply-chain participants in the supply-chain collaboration; processing the data received to display in a second view, the at least two columns in the same order as the first view, the polygons being non-adjacent and being connected by lines, and the interactions between the supply-chain participants being represented by the lines connecting the polygons; and

processing the data received to display in a third view, the at least two columns, the at least two columns including at least one additional column, each of the at least one additional columns representing specific computer components used to implement the interactions between the supply-chain participants and utilization of the computer components by the supply-chain participants.

87. (New) A system as in claim 86, wherein the computer-readable code, when executed, further causes the processor to perform operations comprising:

displaying on the left of the at least two columns in the first view, an additional two columns, one of the additional two columns listing qualitative business benefits provided by the supply-chain collaboration of the supply-chain participants, and the second of the additional two columns representing quantitative business benefit information, wherein the qualitative and quantitative business benefit information represents upstream benefits from the supply-chain collaboration between the supply-chain participants.

88. (New) A system as in claim 86, wherein the computer-readable code, when executed, further causes the processor to perform operations comprising:

displaying on the right of the at least two columns in the first view, an additional two columns, one of the two additional columns listing qualitative business benefits provided by the supply-chain collaboration of the supply-chain participants, and the second of the two additional columns representing quantitative business benefit information, wherein the qualitative and quantitative business benefit information represents downstream benefits from the supply-chain collaboration between the supply-chain participants.

89. (New) A system as in claim 86, wherein the computer-readable code, when executed, further causes the processor to perform operations comprising:

generating the second view upon receiving a request from a user to alter the first view.

90. (New) A system as in claim 86, wherein the polygons in the first view are hexagons.

91. (New). A system as in claim 86, wherein displaying, in the third view, comprises displaying availability of the components.

92. (New) A system as in claim 86, wherein the computer-readable code, when executed, further causes the processor to perform operations comprising:

detecting that a user shifts at least one of the polygons from a first area to a second area;

updating a variable that is related to the at least one of the polygons and that depends on which area the at least one of the polygons covers; and

updating and displaying a second variable that is a function of the first variable.

93. (New) An apparatus for displaying a supply-chain collaboration between supply-chain participants, the supply-chain participants being members of a business community and the supply-chain participants interacting according to a predefined consecutive order, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving data that identifies the supply-chain participants and interactions between the supply-chain participants;

means for receiving data that identifies the consecutive order of the interactions;

means for processing the data received to display in a first view, at least two columns representing business activities of the supply-chain participants, each column representing at least one of the supply-chain participants in the interactions, order of the columns from left to right represents a flow of goods, and the business activities being represented by individual polygons within the at least two columns;

means for processing the data received to display in the first view, the business activities in individual polygons, the polygons being positioned adjacent to each other in order to represent the interactions between the supply-chain participants in the supply-chain collaboration;

means for processing the data received to display in a second view, the at least two columns in the same order as the first view, the polygons being non-adjacent and being connected by lines, and the interactions between the supply-chain participants being represented by the lines connecting the polygons; and

means for processing the data received to display in a third view, the at least two columns, the at least two columns including at least one additional column, each of the at least one additional columns representing specific computer components used to implement the interactions between the

supply-chain participants and utilization of the computer components by the supply-chain participants.

94. (New) An apparatus as in claim 93 further comprising:

means for displaying on the left of the at least two columns in the first view, an additional two columns, one of the additional two columns listing qualitative business benefits provided by the supply-chain collaboration of the supply-chain participants, and the second of the additional two columns representing quantitative business benefit information, wherein the qualitative and quantitative business benefit information represents upstream benefits from the supply-chain collaboration between the supply-chain participants.

95. (New) An apparatus as in claim 93 further comprising:

means for displaying on the right of the at least two columns in the first view, an additional two columns, one of the two additional columns listing qualitative business benefits provided by the supply-chain collaboration of the supply-chain participants, and the second of the two additional columns representing quantitative business benefit information, wherein the qualitative and quantitative business benefit information represents downstream benefits from the supply-chain collaboration between the supply-chain participants.

96. (New) An apparatus as in claim 93 further comprising:

means for generating the second view upon receiving a request from a user to alter the first view.

97. (New) An apparatus as in claim 93, wherein the polygons in the first view are hexagons.

98. (New) An apparatus as in claim 93, wherein displaying, in the third view, comprises displaying availability of the components.

99. (New) An apparatus as in claim 93 further comprising:
means for detecting that a user shifts at least one of the polygons from a first area to a second area;
means for updating a variable that is related to the at least one of the polygons and that depends on which area the at least one of the polygons covers; and
means for updating and displaying a second variable that is a function of the first variable.